

August 31-September 3, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The MiLW Blog: Arguing a case before the Michigan Supreme Court? You may want to look at this ...

"The Michigan Supreme Court has developed a new online handbook for attorneys who argue cases at the state's highest appellate level. The Guide for Counsel in Cases to Be Argued in the Michigan Supreme Court tells attorneys how to prepare for and argue cases before the high court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Oral arguments handbook offers tips for Michigan Supreme Court practice

[Press release](#)

The Detroit News: State: No plans to close 36th District Court; But ousted chief believes 36th District faces downsizing

"State court officials say there are no plans to dismantle the troubled 36th District Court. Unfounded rumors are fueling the speculation about the busy court, which handles traffic and city ordinance violations, they said."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Obituary: BRZEZINSKI, HONORABLE JUDGE ROBERT B.

"[The Honorable Judge Robert B. Brzezinski], age 76, died peacefully on August 31, 2013.... [Judge Brzezinski was dedicated to the City of Livonia for 37 years and served as 16th District Court Judge for 25 years.]"

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: State board certifies Detroit's mayoral primary with Duggan as top vote-getter

"The Board of State Canvassers unanimously voted Tuesday to certify Detroit's primary election results and declare former Detroit Medical Center CEO Mike Duggan the top vote-getter in the Aug. 6 contest.... A three-judge state Court of Appeals panel Friday ruled the certification was not a recount and that recounts could take place after the certification."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Michigan election panel certifies Detroit mayoral primary; Mike Duggan wins

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: State elections director: Re-tabulation prevented disenfranchisement of over 24,000 Detroit voters

[Full story](#)

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: State unanimously votes to certify Detroit primary, Mike Duggan comes out on top

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Detroit Mayoral primary election certified, but questions and controversy still remain

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: After firestorm, Michigan right-to-work law has had little spark

"... The controversial law passed during last December's combative lame-duck legislative session and drew mass protests at the state Capitol led by organized labor. It remains a political and legal flash point. The UAW last week said it will appeal an Aug. 15 state appeals court ruling that said state employees are covered by the law."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Press & Argus and the Lansing State Journal.

Also see:

Lansing State Journal: Bob King: Unions will keep fighting for workers

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Labor Day 2013: Michigan's right-to-work transformation experiences twists in the road

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Appeals court rules Detroit school district isn't liable in shooting

"Victims of a 2008 shooting near Henry Ford High School in Detroit can't sue Detroit Public Schools, the school principal and two school security guards, a federal appeals court ruled. The ruling by the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals on Aug. 26 upholds a 2012 ruling by U.S. District Judge Robert Cleland in Detroit."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: 5 Wayne Law alumni to be honored at SBM annual meeting

"Five Wayne State University Law School alumni and a Wayne Law assistant professor will be honored in September as part of State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting events in Lansing.... [State Court Administrator Chad Schmucker, Class of 1977,] will be honored Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the State Bar of Michigan Awards Banquet [with the State Bar Foundation's Access to Justice Award.] ... The five alumni also will be recognized at the annual Wayne Law Alumni Reception hosted by the law school from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Families, lawmakers wrestle with juvenile sentencing

"... While the [U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Miller v. Alabama that mandatory life sentences for juveniles constituted cruel and unusual punishment] was meant for cases going forward, subsequent legal wrangling in Michigan and local federal court has left open the question of whether the ruling has to be applied retroactively. While a Michigan Court of Appeals ruled it doesn't have to be applied to cases already adjudicated, a federal court subsequently ruled it did. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is appealing that decision."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Grand Rapids Press: Family of murder victim fights to see freedom for teen convicted in the 1996 crime

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Hon. Nancy M. Blount appointed Chief Judge of 36th District Court

"Judge Nancy M. Blount has been appointed Chief Judge of Detroit's 36th District Court by the Michigan Supreme Court. The new chief judge has named Prentis Edwards, Jr. as the 36th District's Chief Judge Pro Tem. Judge Michael Talbot, the 36th District's special judicial administrator, praised the Supreme Court's appointment of Blount and Blount's choice of Edwards."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Amici curiae: Defendants routinely jailed without assessing ability to pay court-ordered costs

"After Joseph Bailey pleaded guilty to a probation violation in October 2008, he was facing a restitution order of more than \$14,000. As of April 2010, he had paid \$170, maintaining that it was the best he could do. He was nearing the five-year limit on probation. Wayne County Circuit Court Judge James R. Chylinski believed that under these circumstances, he had no choice but to send Bailey to prison. And so he did."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: New online toolkit for those involved in child abuse cases

"Judges, attorneys and families involved in child abuse and neglect cases can now get information about the legal process in a single place online. A division of the Michigan Supreme Court designed the new online toolkit.... The hope is that the online toolkit will help children get placed in the right homes more quickly."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Jackson County Legal News: Toolkit to help judges, lawyers with child placements

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Washtenaw County Legal News.

Macomb County Legal News: Foster care boards need volunteers

"The State Court Administrative Office of the Michigan Supreme Court is seeking volunteers to serve on the County Foster Care Review Boards. The Michigan Legislature established the Foster Care Review Board Program in 1984 in an effort to improve children's foster care programs through the state utilizing citizen review boards."

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Cotter works on mental health bills

"State Rep. Kevin Cotter recently said the findings of a survey of participants in 10 mental health court programs in Michigan show how effective the programs are and how much they can help improve the lives of their participants. The survey supports a package of legislation Cotter is helping to sponsor that is up for consideration in the House Judiciary Committee."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Ingham County Legal News: Mental health courts see recidivism drop, outcomes improve for mentally ill

[Full story](#)

The Morning Sun: Malek to be re-sentenced in hit and run case

"A Gratiot County woman who is serving time for the hit-and-run death of a teenaged boy is to be re-sentenced. Michigan Court of Appeals judges vacated the sentence of Brandie Lynn Malek in Gratiot County Circuit Court because the judge did not adequately explain why she deviated from the legislative minimum sentencing guidelines."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Photo: Flag at Oakland County Circuit Court to honor workers, patriots

"This 60-foot American flag was draped Friday outside the west wing of the Oakland County Circuit Court building, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, in honor of Labor Day and Patriot's Day. The flag will remain up through the 12th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks."

[Full story](#)

Press & Guide/Dearborn: DETROIT: Federal court warns of jury duty fine scam

"The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan issued a warning against people who are trying to steal money from those who skipped jury duty. The scam artists call their targets and threaten to fine or arrest them because they didn't show up for jury duty. They ask for the person's information like their Social Security or credit card numbers, which can be used for fraudulent purposes."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Testing case heads to Circuit Court

"... [Visiting] Judge Monte Burmeister bound Ryan Matthew Gubbins, 30, of Lake Ann, over to 13th Circuit Court after an hour-long preliminary examination Friday in the very court for which Gubbins' company, Tri-County Monitoring Services, once provided drug and alcohol tests for individuals on bond or probation.... All three 86th District Court judges disqualified themselves from the case based on Gubbins' prior relationship with the court. The district court covers Grand Traverse, Antrim and Leelanau counties."

[Full story](#)

WWMT-TV(3)/Kalamazoo: Allegan County works to set up veterans court

"Veterans who are arrested could soon have more legal options available to them. On Friday [August 30], Allegan County applied for a grant that will establish a Veterans Court--a program aimed at helping those who served turn their lives around. Newschannel 3 talked to Judge Bill Baillargeon, who is heading up the effort, who says he's seen the program be extremely successful in other counties, and that he's excited to start it in Allegan."

[Full story](#)